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Transcript of letter, October 1, 1850, from Floride Calhoun to Anna Clemson

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Fort, Hill October 1 t, 1850

543
C-3
TTL

Dearest Anna

Our family have ^{again} been sorely afflicted in the death of dear Angie. Her death so sudden, and unexpected was the more severe on us all. Those immediately arround her were totally unconcious of her danger until after she breathed her last. Her situation was precisely like poor Marias, ondy that her constitution, was a better one, and promised every thing would be favourable to thelast. The Physicians, finding her pulse giving way, immediately took the child away from her, in hopes of saving her life, but all availed nothing, she sunk suddenly into the arms of death. I was sorry not to have seen her before her death, but as in your fathers, case, it was not so to be, consequently i must think it was all for the best. I did not reach the house for two hours after she died.

Poor John, suffered death for a time, as he loved her devotedly and she could not bear him out of her sight ~~a~~ ^{one} moment, but she is not more, and I hope he may be supported under his severe trial. He leaves in two weeks for Florida as he thinks his health requires it. I am sorry he could not have remained with me this winter at least.

In three weeks Cornela, and myself will be entirely alone, which will be a new state of things with me, as one of the boys, have always been with me, but I must do hereafter, as I can, not as I will.

I am looking out for a white woman, to live with me to assist with the keys, sew, &, as it will be bad not to have some white person with me, when I am sick, Cornelia is so hard of hearing.

I am sorry to find Calhoun, so liable to colds, you will have to be careful of him during the winter.

I hope Floride, will get rid of her headaches entirely, as she so seldon has them now. Tell her I answered a long time ago her nice letter, and hope she has received it.

Now my dear Anna, I must through you, (as I am so much opposed to writing) reply to Mr. Clemsons, letter. to me, in refference, to Andrews letter to him. Suffice it to say, I never pay any attention to family quarrels, nor will I take part on either side, but, as Mr. Clemson, appears, anxious, to do away the impression which Andrew appears inclined to make on our minds of him.

Tell him nothing Andrew can say to me, would cause me to slight him in any way, unless he should do anything personally to me, to cause me to think badly of him. The very circumstances of his being the Husband of a daughter, I love devotedly, would induce me to think well of him, so long as he treats her well and is kind to me. I ~~am~~ safely say myself, as well as the rest of the family, think highly of Mr. Clemson and nothing Andrew can say to us would make us think the less of him, as we all know how bitter Andrew, can be to those he is opposed to, but at the same time I ~~can-be~~ hope what I have said will never be repeated to Andrew, but that Mr. Clemson, may keep quiet, and have as little to do with him as possible, as he is very vindictive, and might be personal, if things are not passed off quietly.

As to what your fathers, feelings were towards him, if he had the feelings Andrew, represents, I never heard him express them, nor do I believe he ever had them. I trust the matter will be forgotten, and everything amicably settled between Mr. Clemson and Andrew.

*correction:
cash*
You did not say in your last letter, whether Mr. C, was coming to this country or not. I think he ought to come on and dispose of his property, as soon as possible, as it never will increase, while he is so far away. If he does not come, do ask him to let me know what he will take for William, the Carpenter, Susan, and her child, as I would like to get them, if he does not ask too high a price. There is no carpenter on the place, and I think I ought to have one. Tell him, he must let me have them as reasonable as possible, as I will pay the cost, if I get them. I intend selling two, that I do not like, and spend the money for others. If the cash cannot be paid, how long a time will he allow me to pay it in. If Mr. Clemson comes on tell him to come immediately up to see me, before he sells his place, as I would like to see him first

We are all well, black and white on the place. I quite forgot to mention, I sent Mr. Clemsons, letter to Mr. Whitner(?)
Whitner?
to him.

I again mention dear Anna, that dear Old Fort, Hill, (as it is now dearer to me than ever) having been the home so long of your father) now belongs to Cornelia, and myself together with fifty Negros, big, and little, making twenty two workers, not full hands, but I think I may say 20 full hands in all in the field, which will be enough for Cornelia and myself, as we will scarcely ever travel. But for the bank debt being paid we would not have been so well off.

three
I have received the corsetts safe, and like them much but disappointed you did not send the lacings and steel thimbles. If Mr. Clemson comes on, why cant you let me have some of your table cloths and napkins and I can pay him for them when he comes. I would like them four yards long, and three 5 yard long, the width I leave intirely to you. I think with you that I do not require the very finest here, therefore will leave the quality to you. Still I wish the Damask, and 24 Table Napkins to suit, they need not be more than tree quarters long, however I will leave all that to you so that if Mr. Clemson comes be sure to send them.

however I will leave all that to yourself. So that if Mr. Clemson comes be sure to send them and you can get others for yourself. I will pay him as soon as he comes. Love to all, and kiss the children for me. Remember me to Mimi.

Wm 7-17-58

Florida Calhoun